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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, JANUARY 13, 1999

APPLICATION OF

ESSEX TELECOMMUNICATIONS
OF VIRGINIA, INC.

CASE NO. PUC980158

For a certificate of public
convenience and necessity
to provide local exchange
telecommunications services

FINAL ORDER

On October 19, 1998, Essex Telecommunications of Virginia, Inc. ("Essex" or "Applicant") filed an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity ("certificate") requesting authority to provide local exchange telecommunications services throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

By Order dated November 19, 1998, the Commission directed the Applicant to provide notice to the public of its application, directed the Commission Staff to conduct an investigation and file a report, and scheduled a public hearing to receive evidence relevant to Essex's application.

On December 17, 1998, the Staff filed its report finding that Essex's application was in compliance with the Commission's Rules for Local Exchange Telephone Competition, as adopted in

Case No. PUC950018. Based upon its review of Essex's application and the audited financial statements of its ultimate parent corporation, Sirco International, the Staff determined it would be appropriate to grant a local exchange certificate to Essex.

A hearing was conducted on January 7, 1999. Essex filed proof of publication and proof of service as required by the November 19, 1998, scheduling order. At the hearing, the application, with accompanying exhibits, and the Staff Report, as amended by letter filed on December 28, 1998, were entered into the record without objection.

Having considered the application and the Staff Report, the Commission finds that such application should be granted. Accordingly,

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) Essex Telecommunications of Virginia, Inc. is hereby granted a certificate of public convenience and necessity, No. T-428, to provide local exchange telecommunications services subject to the restrictions set forth in the Commission's Rules for Local Exchange Telephone Competition, § 56-265.4:4 of the Code of Virginia, and the provisions of this Order.

(2) Essex shall file tariffs with the Division of Communications which conform with all applicable Commission rules and regulations.

(3) There being nothing further to come before the Commission, this case shall be dismissed and the papers placed in the file for ended causes.